

The California Water Commission consists of nine members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Seven members are chosen for their expertise related to the control, storage, and beneficial use of water and two are chosen for their knowledge of the environment. The Commission advises the Director of the Department of Water Resources on matters within the Department's jurisdiction, approves rules and regulations, and monitors and reports on the construction and operation of the State Water Project. California's comprehensive water legislation, enacted in 2009, gave the Commission new responsibilities regarding the distribution of public funds set aside for the public benefits of water storage projects, and developing regulations for the quantification and management of those benefits.

The roles and responsibilities of the Water Commission are defined in the Water Code, sections of the Government Code, and the Civil Procedures code. Some of their specific responsibilities are highlighted below:

Departmental Activities and Regulations

- Conferring with, advising, and making recommendations to the director of DWR with respect to any matters under his jurisdiction. *(WC §161)*
- Approving all rules and regulations of the Department, other than those relating exclusively to the internal administration and management of the department, before they can become effective. *(WC §161)*

State Water Project

- Conducting an annual review of the construction and operation of the State Water Project, and making a report on its findings to the Department and to the Legislature, with any recommendations it may have. *(WC §165)*
- Holding public hearings on all additional facilities proposed to be added to the State Water Project and naming any new facilities. *(WC § 161.5, 166)*
- Adopting a resolution of necessity, and giving each affected person a venue to be heard, before the Department may commence an eminent domain proceeding. *(CCP §1245.210)*

Federal Funding

- Presenting its views to the Congressional appropriations committees on funding for flood control or reclamation projects being planned or constructed in California by the United States Army Corps of Engineers or the Bureau of Reclamation. *(WC §12602)*

Water Storage

- Selecting water storage projects for funding under the Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Act of 2012 (SBX7-2) through a competitive public process if the bill is passed. Funding must go towards the public benefits portions of projects that improve the operation of the state water system, are cost effective, and provide a net improvement in ecosystem and water quality conditions. *(WC § 79740)*
 - Developing and adopting, by regulation, methods for quantification and management of public benefits of water storage projects by December 15, 2012, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Game, the State Water Resources Control Board, and the department. *(WC § 79744)*
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Anthony Saracino, Chair, of Sacramento, has been director of the California Water Program at The Nature Conservancy since 2005. Previously, he was director of Schlumberger Water Service from 2001 to 2005. Saracino was principal of Saracino, Kirby, Snow from 1995 to 2001 and was director of geologic and environmental services for Wallace Kuhl and Associates from 1984.



Paul Kelley, Vice-Chair, of Santa Rosa, served as Sonoma County supervisor representing the Fourth District, and director of the Sonoma County Water Agency from 1995 to 2011. Previously, he was a teacher at Santa Rosa Christian School. Kelley also worked as lead programmer for KLH Consulting and as a systems manager for Standard Structures. He is president of the Association of California Water Agencies.



Andrew Ball, of San Mateo, has been president and chief executive officer of Webcor Builders since 1994. He is chair of the Industry Advisory Board for the Center for the Built Environment at the University of California, Berkeley; and founding member and advisory board member for the Business Council on Climate Change. Ball is also chair of the San Francisco Mayor's Task Force on Green Buildings and the American Society of Concrete Contractors Sustainability Committee.



Dave Cogdill, of Modesto, began his term as Stanislaus County Assessor in 2011. Previously, he represented the 14th District through in the California State Senate from 2006 to 2010. Cogdill served as the Senate Republican Leader from April 2008 to February 2009 and Senate Minority Whip from 2007 to 2008. Prior to that, he represented the 25th District in the State Assembly and was Assembly Minority Floor leader from 2002 to 2006. Previously, he owned and was an appraiser for Cogdill and Giomi.



Daniel Curtin, of Sacramento, has served as director for the California Conference of Carpenters since 2001 and previously held the same position from 1992 to 1999. From 1999 to 2001, he served as chief deputy director for the Department of Industrial Relations. He serves on the State Compensation Insurance Fund Board of Directors and previously served on the Economic Development Commission and the Industrial Welfare Commission.



Joe Del Bosque, of Los Banos, has been president and chief executive officer of Empresas Del Bosque, a diversified farm in the San Joaquin Valley, since 1985. He is a member of AgSafe, California Farm Bureau, California Latino Water Coalition and Western Growers Association.



Joseph Byrne, of Los Angeles, is a partner in the law office of Burke, Williams and Sorensen. Previously, he served as the Executive Director of the Homeland Security Advisory Council, Region 1 in and practiced law in the government practice group of a large law firm in Los Angeles. Prior to that, Byrne worked in the California State Assembly and served as counsel and the chief water and public safety policy consultant to Speaker Hertzberg.



Kimberley Delfino, of Sacramento, has been California program director for Defenders of Wildlife since 2000. In 2000, she worked as legislative director for the California Public Interest Research Group. For several years previously, Delfino was staff attorney for the U.S. Public Interest Research Group and an associate attorney for Meyer and Glitzenstein.



Luther Hintz, of Brownsville, worked for Reclamation District Number 108 as executive director from 2005 to 2006 and general manager from 1993 to 2005. Prior to that, he worked for Bookman-Edmonston Engineering between 1960 and 1993. Hintz was a fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a member of the U.S. Committee on Irrigation and Drainage until 2008.